

T-732
Lewis Ross House
St. Michaels
Private

c. 1881

The Lewis Ross house falls into a broad group of mid to late nineteenth century two-and-a-half story, center hall, single-pile frame dwellings erected during the post Civil War era. Sheathed with German siding, the house is marked by a cross-gable roof, and it is lighted by four-over-four sash windows. Located in the center of St. Michaels, the dwelling adds to the nineteenth character of Grace Street.

The chain of title for this property indicates the house was erected about 1881 for Lewis E. Ross, who purchased the vacant lot in that year for \$75. The 1877 St. Michaels map indicates the lot was unimproved at that time and presumably remained so until the Ross transfer. Lewis Ross sold the house and lot in 1909 to Thomas E. Carey for \$525, an appropriate sum for the time.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. T-732

Magi No.

DOE __yes__no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic LEWIS ROSS HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 102 Grace Street not for publication

city, town St. Michaels vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Clerk of Talbot County Court liber 406

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 552

city, town Easton state MD 21601

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. T-732

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Lewis Ross house stands at 102 Grace Street Street in the center of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, five-bay frame dwelling faces north with the main gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1881, the two-story, cross-gabled frame dwelling rests on a low brick foundation, and the house is sheathed with a layer of German siding. The house is covered by a medium pitched asphalt shingle roof. Extending southward from the main block is a single story service wing.

The north (main) elevation is a symmetrical five-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking four-over-four sash windows. A heavily molded four-panel front door is topped by a three-light transom. Five evenly spaced four-over-four sash windows light the second floor. Each window is flanked by a pair of louvered shutters. Piercing the cross gable is a pointed arch four-pane window.

Rising through each gable end are interior end brick chimneys. The gable ends of the roof are finished with extended eaves with short returns at the base.

A single story wing extends to the rear.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-732

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Lewis Ross house falls into the broad group of mid to late nineteenth century two-and-a-half story, center hall, single-pile dwellings erected during the post-Civil War era. Sheathed with German siding, the house is marked by a cross-gable roof, and it is lighted by four-over-four sash windows. Located in the center of St. Michaels, the dwelling adds to the nineteenth century character of Grace Street.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The chain of title for this property indicates the house was erected about 1881 for Lewis E. Ross, who purchased the vacant lot in that year for \$75.(91/206) The 1877 St. Michaels map indicates the lot was unimproved at that time and presumably remained so until the Ross transfer. Lewis Ross sold the house and lot in 1909 to Thomas E. Carey for \$525,(155/340) an appropriate sum for the time.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. T-732

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Touart Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

date 2/3/90

street & number P. O. Box 5

telephone 651-1094

city or town Westover

state Md 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

LEWIS ROSS HOUSE

T-732

YEAR: 1965 VOL: 406 PAGE: 552

FROM: James T. Clark and Lois F. Clark

TO : Lester C. Roe and Rebecca E. Roe

NOTES: On the S side of Grace Street beginning at the NW corner of Sarah F. Chesley; run W with Grace Street 36'4" to a stone; S 111' to the boundary of the former John S. Madigan; E with Madigan 35'4" to the SW corner of Chesley; with Chesley 111' to the beginning.

Conveyed to Clark by Roe 1957, 338/274.

YEAR: 1957 VOL: 338 PAGE: 274

FROM: William D. Roe, widower \$4000

TO : James T. Clark

NOTES: Same description.

Conveyed to Roe by Carey 1913, 166/253.

YEAR: 1913 VOL: 166 PAGE: 253

FROM: Thomas E. Carey and Annie E. Carey

\$700

TO : William D. Roe

NOTES: Same description.

Conveyed to Carey by Ross 1909, 155/340.

YEAR: 1909 VOL: 155 PAGE: 340

FROM: Lewis E. Ross \$525

TO : Thomas E. Carey

NOTES: Same description.

Conveyed to Ross by Orem and Fairbank 1881, 91/206

YEAR: 1881 VOL: 91 PAGE: 206

FROM: Frank S. and Kate R. Orem and William J. and Rebecca Fairbank

TO : Lewis E. Ross \$75

NOTES: Begins at the NW corner of Joseph Hergesheimer; run W on Grace St. 36'4" to a stone; then S 111' to Wm. W. Bruff; E with Bruff 35'4" to the SW corner of Joseph Hergesheimer; N 111' to the beginning.

Conveyed to Orem and Fairbank by Harrington heirs 1881, 91/203.

The lot here conveyed is one-half of the lot sold to Orem and Fairbank by the Harringtons.

YEAR: 1881 VOL: 91 PAGE: 203

FROM: Seven Harrington heirs all of Erie, Pa.

\$150

TO : Frank S. Orem and William J. Fairbank

NOTES: The grantors were: John S. Harrington, William W. Harrington, Edwin Harrington, Nannie P. Harrington, Mary K. Harrington, Henrietta M. Harrington, and Nathan Harrington.

Begins at the NW corner of Joseph Hergesheimer; runs W with Grace Street 72'6" to the NE corner of James Harrison; S 111' to William W. Bruff; E with Bruff 72'6" to the SW corner of Joseph Hergesheimer; N 111' to the beginning.

YEAR: 1868 VOL: 74 PAGE: 398

FROM: Nathan Harrington

TO : William H. Faulkner

NOTES: Lease. This is a lease for 10 years for a lot on "Polk Alley" or Grace Street. It begins at the NW corner of Francis Townsend; runs with the alley to the NE corner of James Harrison; with Harrison to W. W. Bruff; with Bruff to the SW corner of Townsend; with Townsend to the beginning.

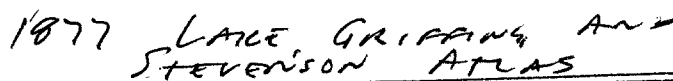
This description fits this lot but there are no transactions on record between it and the 1881 sale by the Harrington heirs.

Deeds showing acquisition of the property on Grace Street by Nathan Harrington have not been found.

The land was originally purchased by John Bruff from James Braddock and John Thompson. (1781, 21/223; 1790, 24/52; 1791, 24/276)

Nathan Harrington, Sr. married Ann Bruff daughter of John Bruff; Nathan Harrington, Jr. married his cousin Sallie Ann Bruff, daughter of Thomas Bruff. Thomas Bruff was the oldest son of John Bruff. If the property passed by inheritance there would have been no requirement for deeds of record.

Harrington wills have not been found. There is reference to a will of Ann M. Harrington (1879, 88/139) but this is not in the Talbot County Courthouse





T-732
LEWIS ROSS HOUSE
St. Michaels, MD Quadrangle
1942



T-732

LEWIS ROSS HOUSE

Northwest elevation

St. Michaels, Talbot Co., MD

11/89, Paul Touart, photographer

Negative/Md Historical Trust